

REMARKS

It is respectfully requested that the present Amendment be entered into the Official File in view of the fact that the Amendment automatically places the application in condition for allowance. Thus, the present Amendment is believed to be in proper form for placing the application in condition for allowance.

Alternatively, if the Examiner does not agree that this application is in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that this Amendment be entered for the purpose of appeal. The present Amendment reduces issues, as less claims would be pending on appeal.

Status of the Claims

Claims 4-9 and 14-16 are pending in this application. Claims 6-9 are withdrawn from consideration. Claim 4 is independent.

In the present Amendment, claims 10-13 have been canceled. Claims 1-3 were previously canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. Also, claims 4, 5, 6 and 14 have been amended.

Support for the amendment to claim 4 can be found in original claim 13. Support for the amendment to claim 5 can be found in original claim 14. The amendment to claim 14 is minor in character. Support for the amendment to claim 6 is found at, e.g., page 10, third full paragraph of the specification. No new matter has been added.

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Drawings

Since no objection has been received, Applicants assume that the drawings are acceptable and that no further action is necessary. Confirmation thereof in the next Office Action is respectfully requested.

Claim Objections

The Examiner has objected to claims 13-14 for being dependent on a rejection independent claim. Applicants respectfully note that the subject matter of claim 13 now appears in claim 4.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 4-5 and 15-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Fourtillan et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,763,471). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection has been overcome, as the allowable subject matter now appears in independent claim 4. The other disputed claims depend on claim 4.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Request for Rejoinder

Applicants also submit that claim 4, and any claim dependent thereon, is in allowable condition. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that composition and method claims 6-9 should

be rejoined and found allowable as well pursuant to *In re Ochiai*, 37 U.S.P.Q.2d 1127 (Fed. Cir. 1995).

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

In view of the above amendment, Applicants believe the pending application is in condition for allowance.

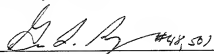
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Eugene T. Perez, Registration No. 48,501, at the telephone number of the undersigned below to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

Reply to Office Action of July 22, 2010

If necessary, the Director is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge any fees required during the pendency of the above-identified application or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448.

Dated: September 22, 2010

Respectfully submitted,

By  #48, 501
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